



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
HAGÁTÑA, GUAM 96910
U.S.A.**

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2013-008

WHEREAS, Guam has approximately over thirteen thousand (13,000) veterans from all United States wars and conflicts; and

WHEREAS, many of these veterans face hardships while transitioning back into civilian life; and

WHEREAS, the unemployment rate for Gulf War II veterans is forty two percent (42%) higher than it is for non-veterans; and

WHEREAS, approximately twenty five percent (25%) of Gulf War II veterans have a disability that is connected to their military service, compared with approximately thirteen percent (13%) of all veterans; and

WHEREAS, recent tests of returning troops show that twenty percent (20%) of infantry and ten percent (10%) of other troops suffer from at least mild brain injury; and

WHEREAS, over thirty five percent (35%) of veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, who have sought healthcare through the Veterans Administration, have been diagnosed with mental disorders; and

WHEREAS, federal, local agencies, and non-governmental organizations receive and distribute funding targeted to address veteran needs from a variety of sources; and

WHEREAS, Guam veterans can be better served with a more coordinated island-wide effort.



NOW, THEREFORE, I, EDDIE BAZA CALVO, Governor of Guam, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Organic Act of Guam, issue this Order to become effective upon signature.

IT IS ORDERED that the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center establish the Guam Interagency Council on Veterans, whose purpose shall be to identify and prioritize the needs of Guam's service member, veterans, and their families and to coordinate the activities at all levels of government in addressing those needs.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Directors of the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center, the Department of Labor, the Department of Corrections, Administrator of the Office of Veterans Affairs, the General Manager of the Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority, and, the Adjutant General of the Guam National Guard are appointed as members of the Guam Interagency Council on Veterans.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Director of the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center may invite federal agencies, such as, but not limited to, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, U.S. Benefits Office, and U.S. Naval Hospital, the U.S. Armed Forces, and their appropriate assistive sub-units to participate in the Guam Interagency Council on Veterans.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Director of the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center may invite veteran stakeholders, such as, but not limited to Salvation Army of Guam, WestCare Pacific Islands, the Guam Workforce Investment Board, and others who serve or can help the veterans to nominate a representative to participate in the Guam Interagency Council on Veterans.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the lead agency, Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center through its Director, provide all staff support to the Guam Interagency Council on Veterans.



IT IS REQUESTED that the Speaker of the 32nd Guam Legislature appoint a member to represent the legislative branch, of the Guam Interagency Council on Veterans.

IT IS FURTHER REQUESTED that the Chief Justice of Guam appoint a representative from the judicial branch, as a member of the Guam Interagency Council on Veterans.

IT IS FURTHER REQUESTED that the President, University of Guam, and President of Guam Community College each appoint a representative from their respective systems, to sit as members of the Guam Interagency Council on Veterans.

This Order is not intended to create, and does not create, any rights or benefits, whether substantive or procedural, or enforceable at law or in equity, against the Territory of Guam or its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

I FURTHER DIRECT that, as soon as hereafter possible, this Order shall be filed in the Office of the Governor of Guam and that widespread publicity and notice be given to this Order.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the Territory of Guam to be affixed this 20th day of September 2013.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eddie Baza Calvo", written over a horizontal line.

EDDIE BAZA CALVO

I Maga'lahaen Guahan
Governor of Guam

ATTESTED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Raymond S. Tenorio", written over a horizontal line.

RAYMOND S. TENORIO

I Segundo na Maga'lahaen Guahan
Lieutenant Governor of Guam

